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CLASSIFICATION SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY 25X1

SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY East Germany REPORT

TOPIC 1. Detraining Facilities for Tanks in the Area South of Berlin

2. Conversion of Boxcars to Troop Cars

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

25X1 DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 12 August 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

25X1

1. 25X1

25X1 the possibility of detraining tanks at the Berlin-Lichtenberg, Berlin-Schoeneweide and Zentralviehhof railroad stations. 25X1

25X1 trains with tanks arriving from the Potsdam, Brandenburg, and Rathenow areas were to be detrained at the railroad stations mentioned. 25X1

25X1 inspect the railroad stations in the area of the 2d railroad subdistrict office, Potsdam, as to their usability for the detraining of tanks. The Jueterbog, Treuenbrietzen, Belzig and Potsdam railroad stations were checked. 1

2. 25X1

25X1 the detraining facilities available at railroad stations in the area of the 4th railroad subdistrict office. In the vicinity of the Wuensdorf railroad station, 25X1

25X1 35 AA guns covered with camouflage nets. 1

3. The destroyed freight shed at the freight station of Berlin-Ostbahnhof, which is located between Warschauer Bruecke and the railroad service installation of the Berlin-Ostbahnhof station, has been reconstructed and converted into a carpenter shop employed for the equipping of troop cars. The shed is 250 to 300 meters long. 25X1

25X1 at least 40 boxcars had daily to be converted into troop cars after 8 July. a 25X1 total of up to 60 cars were daily equipped at the installation. No information was available on the total number of boxcars to be converted into troop cars. 2

4. 25X1

25X1 Comment. Experiences made during the employment of Soviet troops for the quelling of the uprising in East Berlin probably showed that detraining facilities for troops and tanks were incomplete. The inspections ordered by the East German Interior Ministry were probably made for the KVP, because KVP tank units are stationed in Potsdam, Brandenburg, and Rathenow. The reconnoitering of detraining 25X1 facilities carried out probably took place by order of the Soviet Transportation Control Headquarters (VOSO) in Berlin. The areas of the 2d and 4th railroad subdistrict offices cover the area south of Berlin. The AA guns seen belonged to emplacements of the 2d Gds AAA Div.

25X1

25X1 2. Comment. 25X1 work on the manufacture of equipment needed for troop cars was started at the Berlin-Ostbahnhof station already on 30 June. The extent of this type of work is much higher than observed in previous years. This indicates that troop movements may be planned in the near future which exceed the normal rate in the

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rotation of personnel, which involves the replacement of discharged soldiers by new recruits. No information has been obtained so far whether similar work is under way also in other railroad districts.

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